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Nordic eHealth cooperation

Nordic collaboration on eHealth in ministry level started already in 2011 in the work of the eHealth group supported by the Nordic Council of Ministries. The idea of collaboration is to strengthen the leading position of Nordic countries in eHealth and influence together on strategical level within EU. Presidency of the group is circulating in two year periods, today it is in Finland and is handed over to Denmark in May 2017.

The eHealth Group and its subgroups have offered a permanent platform for Nordic cooperation in eHealth, i.e. the digitalization of health care services, since 2011. The group has been a forum for strategic cooperation, international coordination with EU, WHO, OECD and for developing monitoring & evaluation of eHealth services. The group has been successful in this respect and has been highly valued by all the participating authorities.

The most important outcome of the cooperation is the indicator work done by the subgroup Nordic eHealth Research Network (NeRN) for the monitoring of developments in eHealth that has proven rather unique in a global perspective and has directly influenced the OECD Indicator development and has been recognized by the WHO and the European Commission as a groundwork

for them. The work on a comparison of national strategies within eHealth across the Nordic countries is another significant result of the work in the group.

Nordics have cooperated with ePrescription exchange within EU epSOS-pilot, where ePrescription were exchanged f.ex. between Sweden and Finland. This activity will be permanent by EU CEF funding given to Sweden and Finland and in the future to Denmark. Estonia is also within CEF-funding and is participating in this cooperation.

eHealth group has contributed significantly to the strengthening of the Nordic position in EU cooperation making it possible to stress Nordic priorities therein. In this sense the collaboration has been of particular importance for the non-EU-members. On the national level, the group has been able to highlight the importance of a harmonized approach to the digitalization of health care in each country by bringing in the Nordic perspective in national conferences, seminars, workshops etc.

Further information:

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